

5 STEVE ROSS: Hi. I'm Las Vegas City Councilman
6 Steve Ross, and I represent Ward 6 in the great northwest
7 part of this valley and the closest part of this city to
8 the proposed repository. I am here also to express my
9 opposition to Yucca Mountain project.

10 For years the federal government has employed
11 a "by whatever means necessary" approach trying to
12 justify the appropriateness of the Yucca Mountain
13 project. Along the way, the federal government has also
14 chosen to largely ignore the recommendations of sound
15 science, continually trying to advance their case.

16 As a husband and a father and a native Nevadan
17 also, I'm also an ex-Test Site worker as well, I'm also
18 an elected representative of tens of thousands of
19 families in the Las Vegas Valley, I find it a
20 frightening prospect that the federal government against
21 the best evidence that sound science can produce still
22 wants to store deadly nuclear waste very close to my
23 home.

24 As a locally elected public servant, I'm
25 concerned not only by the burial of radioactive nuclear
1 waste, but I'm also concerned about transporting this
2 waste across thousands of miles, putting thousands,
3 indeed millions of lives at risk.

4 After decades of having the Yucca Mountain
5 project being shoved down our throats, Nevadans are now
6 told of two interstate transportation proposals to ship
7 this deadly waste, a truck alternative and rail

8 alternative. And the mayor hit it on the head. This is
9 just not our problem, it's a national problem. J

10 [The truck alternative would transport about
11 53,000 shipments over 24 years. The rail alternative
12 would transport approximately 9,600 rail shipments and
13 1,100 truck shipments over 24 years. Either
14 transportation option would impact 43 states and would
15 place a huge financial burden on a city and every local
16 municipality across this country, not to mention the
17 millions of lives of those living within the vast
18 transportation corridor that are put at risk.

19 And how does the federal government propose to
20 deal with the cost associated with these transportation
21 proposals? Conveniently, they don't. They leave it up
22 to local governments to foot the bill. As a public
23 servant, I'm charged to protect the public safety of our
24 citizens and our families.

25 The initial cost to the City of Las Vegas to
1 begin this transportation process would be nearly 400
2 million dollars. Over a 24-year shipping campaign, the
3 cost would explode to nearly four billion, strapped upon
4 the backs of taxpayers.

5 But rest assured, my opposition to this plan
6 is not just about dollars and cents, the potential for
7 disaster in transporting these dangerous materials is
8 just too great. I cannot support a plan that the costs
9 are so great in both tax dollars to our local
10 governments and in potential danger towards the lives of
11 people who live in the Las Vegas Valley. We cannot

12 afford this.] Thank you.